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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/095,323 06/10/98 LAUFER

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EXAMINER

SHAY, D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3739

DATE MAILED: 07/19/01

16

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/095,323

Applicant(s)

Laufer

Examiner

J. Day

Group/Art Unit

3739

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on April 27, 2001
- ☒ This action is FINAL.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) 1-27, 48 & 49 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 28-47, 50 & 51 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 14
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892 946
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

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The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 29, 30, 34, 35, 39, 40, 44, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 29, 34, 36, 35, 39, 40, 44, and 45 and indefinite because it is unclear how any steps recited therein manipulatively affect the method.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim 51 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Clarke.

Claims 28-47 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke. Clarke teaches a method of killing smooth muscles cells (see column 2 lines 16-50) using ultraviolet radiation in the 240-²⁸⁰~~20~~ nanometer range (see the paragraph bridging column 2³ and 3 for example). It would have been obvious to the artisan of ordinary skill to employ the method in bronchial tissue, esophigal tissue or urethral tissue since these are equivalents and are all composed of smooth muscle cells that respond to the same irradiative methods as blood vessels, official notice of which has already been taken; to employ a radioactive source, since these are notorious equivalents to laser radiation for killing smooth muscle cells, official notice of which has already been taken; and to use other wavelengths since the media is highly

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absorbant, official notice of which is hereby taken, to employ the method on long lessions, which would require movement while irradiating, since lesions which cover long portions must be treated as well, and to employ the method in an asmatic lung, since there is no indication that the smooth muscle cells therein would respond any differently than in non asmatic lung thus producing a method such as claimed.

Applicants assertions regarding claims '28-32, 34,35, 39, 43, 44, and 45" for failing to recite how they manipulatively affect the method are noted. The examiner must first point out that claims 28-32 were not rejected for this reason^s, but based on the apparent omission in claim 28, as set forth on page 2 of the previous Office action. Applicants remarks regarding the understanding of the claims scope are also noted. However, the examiner further notes that it is well understood that "To be entitled to weight... structural limitations must effect the method in a manipulative sense, and not amount to the mere claiming of use of a particular structure. "Ex Parte Pfeiffer, 782. O.G. 639, 1962 CD 408. Applicant has demonstrated no manipulative difference in the attaching of the applicator to a red lighth source, rather than a 245-280 in light source, thus the rejection has been maintained.

The arguments drawn the Dierksman reference are noted, but are not convincing. The examiner notes that the killing of smooth muscles cells in the method of Clarke will, via the removal of these dead cells through natural bodily processes, result in debulking of the tissue over time (see Figures 6B and 6C of Clarke). Thus applicant's arguments are not convening .

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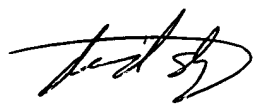
Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 28-47, 50, and 51 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to David Shay at telephone number (703) 308-2215.

David Shay:bhw
June 26, 2001



DAVID M. SHAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 330